

Honey

Arizona's honey production during 2003 was estimated at 2.88 million pounds, up 20 percent from 2002. Average yield from the 40,000 honey producing colonies was 72 pounds, up 9 pounds from last year.

Prices for the 2003 honey crop averaged \$1.38 per pound, up 30 cents from last year. The value of the honey produced by Arizona apiarists was estimated at \$3.97 million, an increase of 54 percent from 2002.

Estimates of honey production and colonies represent operations where honey is taken from colonies for sale or human consumption. Honey produced by beekeepers with fewer than five colonies is not included. Packaged bees and bees for pollination are included only if some honey was removed for human consumption.

Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Price, and Value 1/

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Honey producing colonies (1,000)	42	55	52	40	43	38	40
Yield per colony (Pounds)	80	60	62	59	59	63	72
Production (1,000 Pounds)	3,360	3,300	3,224	2,360	2,537	2,394	2,880
Average price per pound (Dollars)	0.72	0.64	0.62	0.73	0.72	1.08	1.38
Value of production (1,000 Dollars)	2,419	2,112	1,999	1,723	1,827	2,586	3,974

1/ December 1 previous year through November 30.

Honey Production & Price 1997-2003

